

the Almagest

September 13, 2001

Today everything changed.

Volume 40, Number 02

Rep. McCrery offers account of attack on U. S.

"Possibly the most devastating terrorist attack in the history of the world."

by

Christopher Alexander

"Hey honey it's me. It is about ten till ten. My cell phone...It's not....I can't get through on it. I think because so many people are using the cell phone lines it just jammed. The phone here is working. I really don't have anywhere to go because traffic is a mess. I did pass right by the Pentagon right after the explosion where the plane crashed. There was smoke everywhere. The plane actually missed the Pentagon and crashed on the heli-pad. I was right there. I drove right by it, and then I made my way back here, which was a hat trick with all the traffic and the police." This is what assistant professor Dr. Johnette McCrery heard

from her husband, U.S. Rep. Jim McCrery, on her answering machine Tuesday morning.

Later that morning, at 11 a.m. Eastern Time, the World Trade Center in New York City crumbled to the ground.

This was a result of two hijacked commercial airplanes crashing into the buildings at the start of the workday. Planes also reportedly went down in Somerset County, Penn., and outside the Pentagon.

"This is possibly the most devastating terrorist attack in the history of the world," said McCrery in a phone interview moments after the incident.

"I managed to get out of the Capitol," McCrery said. "There was no damage to the Capitol, but the Pentagon did have some casualties. I was driving by the



Dr. Johnette McCrery joins students listening to the President speak
Photo by Christopher Alexander

Pentagon, and it was a mess."

At the time of the interview, McCrery said he knew only that "an unconfirmed number of planes had been high-jacked."

Although not physically hurt, McCrery said he was "certainly shaken by the tragedy."

As of Tuesday afternoon, there was no confirmation of the

number of casualties; everyone in the Capitol was evacuated, and all hospital workers were on duty.

Airports were closed until further notice.

"We don't know who did this, but Bin Laden stated several weeks ago that his organization was planning to strike U.S. interests," McCrery said. "But everyone thought it would happen abroad."

McCrery added, "This underscores the need to become more vigilant in security measures, especially in airports."

Regardless of who executed the attack, McCrery said it "took much planning and to my knowledge there was no sign that this would happen."

Change in fee bill baffles students

Administration cites space as reason for change

by

Christopher Alexander

The LSUS tuition and fees bill got a face-lift this year.

In the past, the tuition was displayed along with a detailed list of fees including the student activity fee, technology fee, athletic fee and parking and safety fee.

This semester the administration decided to change the fee sheets, combining the fees in one listing labeled "FEES."

The "FEES" line was followed by the parking

and safety fee, which varies from semester to semester.

The fee bill did not place LSUS's newly added energy surcharge by itself.

Jeff Strozier, SGA president, said that the new fee sheets caused some confusion.

"Some students came to me not understanding why their fees were different from other students' fees," he said.

He tried to help them by using a calculator and



Cartoon by Jeremy Johnson

doing the math for them to show how some fees stay the same and how other fees depend on the amount

of hours taken in a semester.

"Students should not have to do that," Strozier said. "They should be able to look at and know where their money is going."

Strozier believes that there is some confusion over what exactly is being paid within the fees section.

Accounting services director Adnan M. Samhan said that the fee sheets were altered to make them easier to read for students.

He said that it was a

collective decision between all involved that the fees be lumped together rather than listed separately.

"In the past there have been disagreements between administration and students concerning the fees," said Michael T. Ferrell, vice chancellor of business affairs. "They would complain about paying for services they said they did not use."

His reasoning for the change was that it was a "matter of space and it

Continued on pg. 2

The Almagest

("al-meh-jest". n): Arabic: "The Majestic"

any of several medieval treatises on a branch of knowledge (as the 9th century Arabic translation of Ptolemy's Greek work on astronomy)

- Webster's Third New International Dictionary

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The Almagest Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to *The Almagest* office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. *The Almagest* reserves the right to edit letters. □

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Fees deciphered for your convenience

Continued from pg. 1
simplifies things".

"There was no attempt to hide the energy charge," he said. According to Ferrell, its inclusion within the fees was a "miscommunication and that they needed to be separated."

He said that the energy surcharge was intended to be placed on its own and that he was "unaware that the energy surcharge was not on the fee sheets".

Samhan said that the idea of placing the energy charge by itself, like the parking fee, "had been discussed" but administration decided not to.

Accounting services has a copy of the fee breakdown available.

The fees are also itemized in the class bulletin, which can be found in the library, administration building or most department offices.

There is no present plan to itemize fees in the future but according to Samhan the current procedure "is not set in stone."

Fee breakdown for a resident undergraduate student taking 15 semester hours:

Student Activity Fee	\$25
University Center Fee	\$20
Athletic Fee	\$10
Registration Fee	\$10
Technology Fee	\$75
Utility Surcharge	\$24
Safety Fee (Fall)	\$20

Do you have any concerns, complaints, conundrums?
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or stop by Bronson Hall 344

Calendar of events

Thu Sept. 13

8:30 a.m.
BCM meeting
Pilots room

10:30 a.m.
SGA meeting
Webster room

10:30 a.m.
Library Orientation,
Student Succ. 1st yr.
Noel Library lobby

Fri Sept. 14

8 a.m.
Rush
UC Ballroom

11 a.m.
SOC officer training
BH 305

7 p.m.
Men's rush
Webster, Red River,
DeSoto

Sat Sept. 15

8 a.m.
Rush
UC Ballroom

1:30 p.m.
Otaku club
UC TV room

Sun Sept. 16

8 a.m.
Rush
UC Ballroom

Mon Sept. 17

Last day to drop or resign without receiving grades of W

8 a.m.
Rush
UC Ballroom

4 p.m.
BCM meeting
Pilots room

Tue Sept. 18

10:30 a.m.
Blackboard basics
1st, 2nd, 4th yr
Ballroom

5 p.m.
SOR
"Baptists and the Saints"

5:30 p.m.
Career Center workshop
Red River Room

Wed Sept. 19

Thu Sept. 20

8:30 a.m.
BCM meeting
Pilots room

10:30 a.m.
SGA meeting
Webster room

Fri Sept. 21

12 p.m.
Career Center workshop
Red River room

Sat Sept. 22

1:30 p.m.
Otaku club
UC TV room

Sun Sept. 23

Hypnotist spellbinds crowd at LSUS

by
Raechal Leone

Lacy Spencer wasn't sure it was possible someone could hypnotize her when she stepped onto the stage in the University Center auditorium Thursday night.

Within an hour, however, Spencer, a sophomore biology major, and 10 other students and friends of students were taking commands from hypnotist Paul Parsons.

A crowd of about 100 attended Parsons's appearance, part of the Welcome Back Bash sponsored by the Student Activities Board.

Spencer and others on stage pretended to be members of pop group *NSYNC and participated in a mock Mr. Universe pageant while under hypnosis.

Spencer said she willingly did everything Parsons instructed her to do while she

was hypnotized because she wanted to, not because she felt like she had to do it.

According to Parsons, people who are hypnotized have lowered inhibitions, but won't do anything they wouldn't normally do.

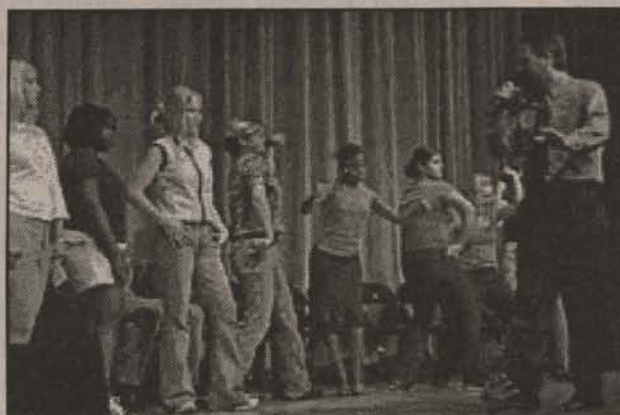
"You can never make them do anything that's against their morals," said Parsons, a member of the American Association of Hypnotists.

In fact, people in a state of hypnosis are simply in the same brain wave state as people who are sleepwalking or talking in their sleep, Parsons said.

"They become hyper-suggestive," Parsons said. "Suggestions bypass the conscious part of your brain and go into

the subconscious part of your brain."

During Parsons's show, 11 people appeared to be hypnotized and complied with Parsons's suggestions that their favorite body part had



Ladies of LSUS flex for hypnotist Paul Parsons

Photo by Matthew Morris

grown 10 times its actual size and that they were putting on suntan lotion on a beach in Jamaica.

About 20 people volunteered to be hypnotized, but

Parsons sent several who didn't seem to be going into a deep hypnosis back into the audience.

"It has to do with your concentration level," said Parsons, who has performed more than 1,000 shows. "About 20 percent of the people I work with will go very deep, about 20 percent will not be hypnotized at all and the other 60 percent will be somewhere in the middle."

Freshman business major Laura Hinson was one of those sent back to her seat because she wasn't falling into a deep hypnosis.

Before the show, Hinson said she wasn't sure if hypnosis was real.

"I think it's all in people's

heads," she said.

It may have been that Hinson and the others who left the stage just had it in their heads that they couldn't be hypnotized or were just trying too hard, according to Parsons.

"That's the number one reason people don't get hypnotized," Parsons said. "They try too hard."

After the show, Spencer said she felt relaxed and remembered everything.

However, Nivine Ankoud, the sister of an LSUS student, didn't remember anything she did while in a state of hypnosis.

"All I remember is being up there at the beginning and then being up there at the end," Ankoud said.

Stephen Failey contributed to this story.

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September 14 - 17

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SGA VOLUNTEER DAY

Saturday, September 15

Mercy Center, Hospitality House and Bossier Clean City
Visit the Office of Student Activities for more information.
Earn up to 2 Student Success Series points
(for 1st, 2nd and 4th yr. students)

Division of Continuing Education offers exam preparation, computer courses, and much more

by
Mandy Wall

The LSUS Division of Continuing Education offered hands-on educational programs for area youths over the summer.

Their 2001 Summer Youth Programs included courses in babysitting, etiquette, the arts, athletics, swimming, dance and writing.

A sign-of-the-times, web page development and a course that covers unexplained phenomenon, dubbed "The Unexplained," were also taught.

A jumpstart program, a review of skills learned the previous school year and an introduction to new skills, was also offered for youth in grades 1-5.

The Kids in Discovery Summer Day Camp for youth in grades 1-9 provided learning experiences with hands-on science, math, reading and computer activities, as well as recreational activities like swimming, music and drama.

A celebration held on the

final day of camp included musical and theatrical performances by the campers. Families were invited to attend.

Martha Anderson, a volunteer instructor of the children's enrichment programs since 1997, directs the day camp and assists in the programming and staffing of other children's courses. All of the children's courses were taught by certified teachers, along with LSUS student counselors, who assisted teachers and supervised children during the programs.

Dr. Severn Doughty, dean of the Division of Continuing Education, said enrollment was down from previous years, but the program was very successful. The department is planning a bigger and better summer program for next year, according to Doughty.

The new courses being offered this fall include digital photography, as well as a Substance Abuse Specialist Certificate Program that entails counseling, psychopharmacology, relapse pre-

vention and strategies in crisis intervention. A new outdoors course will include a tour of C. Bickham Dickson Park where students will learn how the site functions as a natural cleansing element of the Red River, as well as other facts about the Red River Flood Plains.

Other new offerings include gardening, tree use and care and urban and suburban fruit production. Doughty said more new courses will be added in the spring.

Other fall offerings include two free computer seminars: Introduction to Windows 98 and Introduction to the Internet. The free courses are offered so that people can get the computer experience they need in order to enroll in additional computer courses.

Courses on Adobe Photoshop basics, Microsoft applications, Web design, and Macintosh are also available. Free E-Commerce and computer networking seminars will be conducted for businesses.

The Paralegal Institute offers a certificate program that can be completed in two semesters and a Certificate in Non-Profit Administration Program, which includes studies in strategic planning and fundraising, among others, and can be completed in one calendar year.

Exam preparation classes are available for those preparing to take the Notary Public Exam, Human Resource National Exam, Private Investigator License Exam, ACT, GRE, LSAT, MCAT and PPST. Registration for these courses does not include registration for the exam. The courses are designed to prepare students to take the exams.

Leisure learning courses include floral arranging, dance (Swing, Latin, Ballroom, Country & Western), health programs and a motorcycle class designed for novice and experienced riders. Babysitting classes are also offered during the fall.

Doughty said students should come by the Continuing Education office located

in BH 123 for more information or to pick up a registration form.

The office can be reached at 797-5262, or at www.lsus.edu/ce.

According to Doughty, the division wants to become more student-friendly.

Discounts will be given to LSUS students; however, outside patrons will be enrolled first because class sizes are limited.

Faculty and staff may take computer courses for free if classes are not full. Senior citizens 55 years or older and LSUS alumni also receive discounts.

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, so early registration is recommended. Fees for each course vary.

The Division of Continuing Education also offers telecourses for selected classes each semester, with credit given through the university. These classes are listed in each semester's schedule of class offerings.

American Humanics prepares non-profit professionals for future

by
Paula Cleary

If a student has seen a flyer around campus for American Humanics and thought that it was just another new club on campus, she would not be alone.

However, she would be mistaken.

American Humanics has had an active chapter at LSUS since 1994.

The professional organization is open to students of all majors who want to make a difference.

It's part of a certification program focused on training and certifying future professionals to work in the non-profit sector.

Every year, American

Humanics holds several events in an effort to help the university and the community.

The 2001 Riverbend Revue Pilot of the Year Award was given on Sept. 12, honoring Peggy

and Norman Kinsey. The money raised will benefit the LSUS American Humanics Program and the LSUS Alumni Association. The evening included dinner and a parody of "The Sound of Music."

The next event, the Volunteer Fair, will be held Oct.



Amanda Joy Bell, president of American Humanics

9, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the University Center lobby. Representatives from 15 local non-profit organizations will be present to give out information about their programs and to recruit new volunteers.

The event will be open to LSUS students and the general public.

The organization also sponsors the United Way campaign on campus and participates in SGA Volunteer Day.

Membership in the American Humanics program

offers students an advantage, according to American Humanics President Amanda Joy Bell.

"The certification looks good on your resumé," Bell said.

The Partners of American Humanics, the non-profit organizations that have aligned themselves with the program, look for AH certified graduates when making hiring decisions.

"Students don't even think about jobs available in the non-profit sector," said Dr. Norman Dolch, American Humanics advisor. "That is 10 percent of the work force."

Both Dolch and Bell stressed that working for a non-profit does not mean that

you don't get paid.

For those going into the non-profit field, American Humanics offers experience and training in leadership, fundraising, program development and delivery. For students in other majors, the organization is an "excellent out of class learning experience," according to Bell.

Bell said students can also use what they learn in volunteer work for church or youth organizations.

American Humanics members may also apply for the newly created Norman A. Dolch Scholarship for \$500 a semester.

For more information, contact Dolch in BH355 or visit the LSUS Web site and click on "Student Activities."

SGA sponsors Volunteer Day, raffles off parking spots for charity

by
Christopher Ashby

Looking for something more in your life? Want to help the community while helping yourself? Need a few SOAR points?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, the SGA has what you need: Volunteer Day.

The SGA has hosted Volunteer Day for the past several years, but this year will be a bit different.

According to SGA President Jeff Strozier, the event will now be held three days instead of one. Strozier said that having three separate dates, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, and Nov. 17,

might increase student participation.

"Last spring we had less participation than normal," Strozier said.

Strozier said he believes having a wider variety of activities and dates may result in more student support.

There are many locations for Volunteer Day this year. On Sept. 15, volunteers will go to Mercy Center and Hospitality House. Volunteers may also choose to clean sandbars in the Red River through Bossier City Cleanup.

On Oct. 20, volunteers will go to the Rescue Mission and Carver YMCA, and will also be working

with Habitat for Humanity.

On Nov. 17, volunteers will once again work with Habitat for Humanity, but will also be working at a local food bank and the MLK Health Center.

Strozier said volunteering is important because it "creates a sense of community."

"LSUS is a part of that community and we need to get out and make a difference," Strozier said.

SGA Vice President Brad Bowen said the most important part about Volunteer Day is "students getting out and giving back."

Another change in the

event this year is that students, excluding juniors, can get two SOAR points by volunteering, according to Strozier.

Students or organizations interested in participating may call the SGA office at 797-5342 or stop by the Office of Student Activities for more information.

The SGA is also working on a project closer to LSUS.

The SGA is hoping fewer students will be saying, "The parking is horrible" and "I can't find my car" after it raffles off three of the best parking spaces on campus.

According to Bowen, tickets are \$1 and will be

sold through Friday.

Bowen said winners will be selected on Friday and will have reserved parking spaces for the rest of the fall semester.

Bowen said several hundred tickets were printed and he hoped most, if not all, would be sold.

All proceeds from the raffle will go to the Mercy Center and Hospitality House, two of the locations for the Sept. 15 Volunteer Day.

If successful, Strozier said he would like to see the raffle return next year.

Raffle tickets are available by contacting the SGA office.

Noel Memorial Library exhibits Shreveport Little Theatre history

by
Lindsay Meade

In conjunction with its 80th anniversary season, the Shreveport Little Theatre (SLT) has opened an exhibit of artifacts at the Noel Memorial Library.

The exhibit offers a look back to the early years of the local performance group.

The beginning of the exhibit includes the original copy of the Little Theatre's by-laws, drawn up in 1923, as well as the 1925 Articles of Incorporation that brought the SLT, originally known as The Little Theatre of Shreveport, officially into existence. The exhibit includes many photos of the early directors and actors of the organization.

Prior to 1927, the SLT was strictly a traveling troupe, performing at various venues throughout the city. However, that all changed when the Little Theatre decided to enter the Belasco Tournament, a competition held in New York

City that brings together the country's best theater groups performing original plays.

A script of "The Cajun," the piece performed by SLT, as well as a picture of its playwright, Ada Jack Carver, is displayed in the exhibit.

The Little Theatre's performance at the Belasco Tournament won them second place, as well as many command performances upon their return to Shreveport.

The prize money and the revenue from ticket sales brought in approximately \$2,500, which became the inspiration for additional fund-raising that eventually led to the construction of a permanent home for the group.

The new playhouse was officially opened on March 14, 1927.

Visitors to the exhibit can view photographs of the exterior of the building, performances on the stage, and the seats from which the patrons watched shows.

A major portion of the exhibit is dedicated to John Wray Young and Margaret Mary Young who were the Little Theatre's director and designer, respectively, from 1936 to 1973. The exhibit showcases various keepsakes from the Youngs' tenure at SLT, including several pictures of them in costume on the set and a list of the rewards they received, such as the plaque presented to them upon their induction into the Louisiana Performing Arts Hall of Fame in 1977.

Disaster struck the SLT on Jan. 9, 1986, when an electrical fire destroyed their building. The group was forced to become a traveling troupe once again. However, a new building was soon constructed on the original sight.

The exhibit is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesdays and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on other weekdays through September.

Shreveport Little Theatre's 80th Season:

Greater Tuna

by Ed. Howard, Joe Sears and Jaston Williams

Sept. 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22

Having our Say, the Delany Sisters' First 100 Years by Emily Mann

Nov. 8, 9, 10, 16, 17, 18, 30, 31, Dec. 1

Lonestar/Laundry and Bourbon by James McClure

Jan. 10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27

No Sex Please, We're British by Anthony Marriot and Alistair Foot

March 7, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24

Daddy's Dyin' (Who's Got The Will?) by Dell Shores

May 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19

Season memberships are available for \$52 for students and senior citizens and \$63 for adults. For tickets and information, call 424-4439.

More aid in dealing with financial aid

by
Melissa Rumfield

Picture this scenario: Classes are about to start for a new semester, and you have begun to panic.

You don't know what is going on with your financial aid money.

Will your money arrive on time? Will you have to pay for your tuition yourself?

Many LSUS students know first-hand the trials and tribulations associated with applying for financial aid.

Sometimes the experience itself is like being in a maze and not being able to find your way out.

But it doesn't have to be so confusing. The process of applying for financial aid is really quite simple once you understand it.

Here it is: the explanation. So buckle your seatbelt, and please keep your arms and legs inside the ride...

Students (this means you) must apply for financial aid

every school year.

This is accomplished by filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You can pick up an application at the Financial Aid Office. It is also available to fill out online or to download at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

The FAFSA for a new school year is accessible on Jan. 1.

The new FAFSA will be used for the following summer, fall, and spring semesters. For example, the current FAFSA for the 2001-2002 school year is used to apply for aid for Summer 2001, Fall 2001, and Spring 2002.

Betty McCrary, director of financial aid at LSUS, says the most important thing for students to do is "file their FAFSA in January of each year or to file as soon as their taxes or their parents' taxes are complete."

The student will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) in the mail after about six weeks.

This SAR should be

taken to the Financial Aid Office, where it is likely the student will be given additional forms to fill out. Some of these forms are available to download on the LSUS Web site by clicking on "financial aid." After the student's financial aid file is complete all paperwork must be turned in and the student must be admitted to the university, one of the four counselors will process it.

The counselor will use this formula to calculate the amount of aid that will be awarded to the student: Cost of attendance - family contribution = financial need.

Financial Aid is awarded on the basis of need. The cost of attendance takes into account everything from tuition and fees to transportation,

while family contribution is the amount of money the student is expected to provide for their education.

Once the student has been awarded aid, they will receive

At this point, the student's money will be sent to LSUS.

Students who have financial aid money available at registration should follow the procedures outlined in the schedule of classes.

Checks that arrive after the second week of classes will be mailed (minus any money that is owed to the university) to the address the student has on file in the Office of Admissions and Records.

The LSUS Financial Aid Office Web site was recently restructured to contain more information. It now contains the answers to questions you never even knew you should ask.

Here are a few tips to keep in mind:

- ◆ Make sure the Office of Admissions and records always has your current address on file.
- ◆ Pay attention to the Financial Aid Office's deadlines. Deadlines for the rest of this school year are: Oct. 1, for spring semester and March 1, 2002 for the summer 2002 semester.
- ◆ After four semesters, undergraduate students must maintain a 2.00 GPA, while education majors, graduate students and teacher certification students must have a 2.50 GPA to remain eligible for financial aid.
- ◆ Remember that it is the federal policy that a student must stay enrolled through 60% of the semester in order to earn 100% of the aid they receive. If you stop attending classes or drop before this point, the percentage of financial aid that you did not earn will have to be paid back.

an award letter in the mail listing the type and amount of aid they will be receiving.

Hopefully, you can find your way out of the maze now.

Greeks looking to recruit at start of new year

by
Misty McClintock

Yes, it is time for Greek week again.

Students all around campus are talking about it, saying it is the most exciting Greek Week yet.

All of this is because of a new take on things.

This year Phi Mu and

Zeta Tau Alpha sororities' advisor, Erika Gonzalez, is heading Greek Week.

Gonzalez put her marketing background to work when trying new approaches to make Greek Week great.

She said that her biggest triumph was to let the fraternity and sorority members plan everything, leaving her

job to be perfecting the finishing touches.

Greek Week did not get off to a good start, even though it ended well.

Greek Week was scheduled to begin on Tuesday and to last until Friday.

The weather caused Tuesday's activities to be cancelled, but on Wednesday

activities resumed where they had left off.

Wednesday was basically just a day for "advertising," when all Greek members wore the letters of the organization they represent, and Thursday went as scheduled with a little extra.

There were supposed to be two days of Greek

Olympics including: three legged races, balloon shot put competitions, and dizzy bat- to show what it is like to drink and drive.

The activity schedule was originally spread out over two days, but because of Tuesday's rain they all took place on Thursday.

Last of all and the end of Greek Week, the schedule for Friday included slip and slide softball and a cookout with free food at 5:00p.m. behind the University Center.

Now that Greek Week is over it is time to prepare for Rush, so that next year's Greek Week may be even bigger and better than this year's.

According to Gonzalez, "Never at LSUS has Greek life been so exciting."



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Baptist Collegiate Ministry building new facility

by
Mick Strong

The Baptist Collegiate Ministry, formally known as the Baptist Student Union, has begun construction on a 7,600 square-foot building that will house the organization.

The building is the newest construction on campus since Noel Memorial Library.

The groundbreaking ceremony took place Aug. 29 at the building's location at the East Kings Highway entrance on North Campus Boulevard near the LSUS Pioneer Heritage Center.

Construction for the new facility began Sept. 3, according to Jeff Woodriche, project manag-

er.

Woodriche predicts the construction process will be completed and the building ready for occupancy by May, weather permitting.

The facility will be partially constructed by the Baptist Missions Builders, a group of volunteers which has developed hundreds of on-campus facilities throughout the nation.

In return, members of the Ministry will provide lodging and food for the volunteers.

The Rev. Skip Noble, advisor of the Ministry, anticipates as many as 50 to 60 volunteers from across the nation will participate in the development of the new facility.

The building previously used by the organization is located on the southwest side of LSUS.



The new Baptist Collegiate Ministry building in progress

Photo by Christopher Alexander

"The new building is a welcome change," Noble said. "The facility will be much more efficient. It will allow the Ministry to utilize space that is not available at this time."

The new building is expected to contain a director's office, conference room, kitchen, study rooms, prayer room and a multi-purpose room.

According to Noble, the

new facility will allow students to study and develop the spiritual aspects of life, aiding in the goals of the organization.

Noble cited four phases of student development the ministry will help provide: physical, intellectual, peer relations, and spiritual aspects.

Members of the Baptist Collegiate Ministry participate in LSUS activities and work throughout the Shreveport-Bossier area developing and assisting in programs such as nursing home ministries and ministries to children.

Members have also participated in missionary programs in Mexico, El Salvador, New Orleans and Panama City.



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BuiltForSpeed's "Demolicious" is radio-ready

by
Kern Courtney

Climb into the driver's seat of your (hopefully) dependable vehicle and prepare to throw back some asphalt.

With the release of its demo/EP "Demolicious," BuiltForSpeed is kicking up dust all over Louisiana and beyond.

Based in Shreveport, Louisiana, BuiltForSpeed features Jonathan Brasell (vocals, guitar), Cook Allender (guitar, backing vocals), Scott Seyfried (bass, backing vocals), and Chad Alexander (drums).

The band's energetic brand of melodic rock incorporates neo-punk rhythms, thunderously heavy guitar riffs, and strikingly honest lyrics for a delectable serving of radio-ready sounds.

When asked the quintessential music review question, "What would you say your music sounds like?" guitarist Cook Allender quickly replied, "It's Fuel meets Tool, but they were introduced by Weezer."

The seven songs featured here were selected from over 25 songs based on production quality, audience reaction at live shows, and radio friendliness.

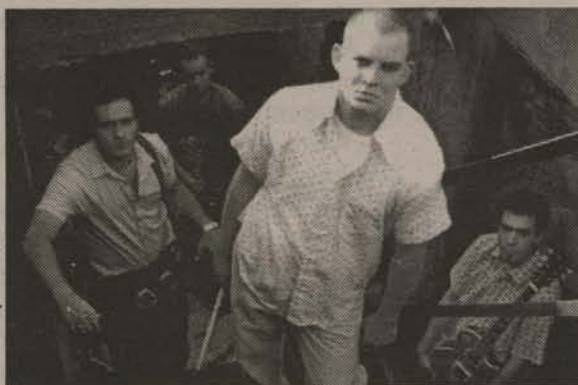
Cook Allender and Jonathan Brasell write the majority of the band's songs, often through home recording sessions.

In fact, five of the songs on the EP were self-recorded and self-produced by the band.

Allender usually develops a well-arranged accompaniment, leaving spaces for lyrics and melody which Brasell provides.

Seyfried and Alexander

anchor down the songs with driving rhythms that fall right in place with the other instru-



BuiltForSpeed

ments.

Everyday experiences often inspire Brasell with lyrics, making the songs easy to relate to and personal at the same time.

Did I say their songs were radio-ready?

I should say they are radio-already.

According to their press release, BuiltForSpeed's

music has been featured on the local music show Homegrown on 98 Rocks, with "Off the Ground" becoming the Rock Pick of the Week, and has been in regular rotation on Rock 99.

Wait! This just in! Local station 92.1 The Buzz will feature BuiltForSpeed's music on Local Buzz, a show dedicated to local music, which airs Sunday nights from 8 to 9 P.M. And outside of Shreveport, B99.3, which airs in the Monroe area, has given regular rotation to the song "New #1", helping make it the Number 1 Most Requested Single for two weeks straight.

If you want to catch this band's live show in Shreve-

port, try Flannagan's or The Havana.

But if you're going out of town, you have plenty of choices.

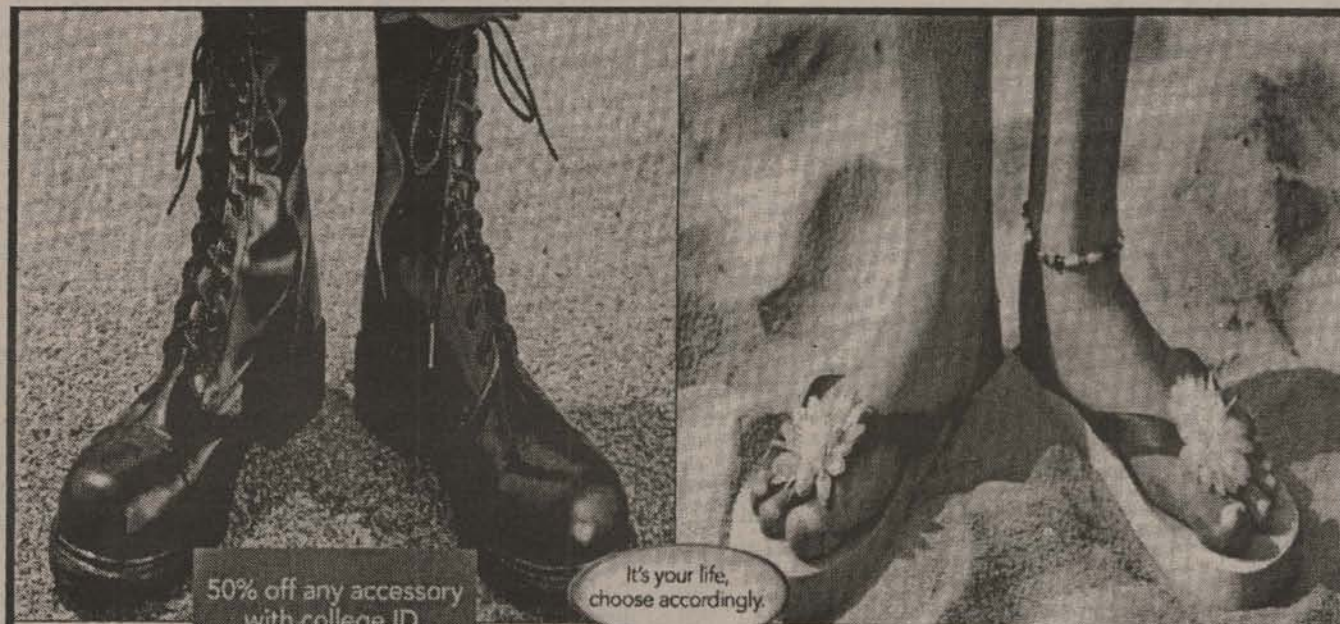
BuiltForSpeed has played at the Galaxy Club in Dallas, Fred's in Baton Rouge, and most recently at the House of Blues in New Orleans.

If you were a student during the spring semester last year, you may have seen them open for Caroline's Spine at Spring Fling.

Thanks to their management company, Jaded Productions, they will also be touring in California for three weeks in February. For dates and other news, visit the band's website, www.builtforspeed-music.com.

Expect a full-length CD from BuiltForSpeed to be released in a few weeks.

In the meantime, remember to buckle your safety belts before giving this EP a listen.



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From the editor

On Tuesday as we were adding the finishing touches to this week's *Almagest*, the nation was rocked by the news of an apparent terrorist attack on the United States.

The first reaction most people probably have to this news is one of shock, followed by rage.

But what may have been more frightening than the attack itself was the reaction it would provoke.

Because, of course, the purpose of terrorism is not to actually inflict physical damage on a society so much as psychological damage.

An attack like this really tests the character of the American spirit.

This spirit is said to inspire Americans to honor ideals like truth, justice and equality.

The World Trade Center

and the Pentagon are two symbolic centers of the American ideal, representing the free market system and the strength of the American military.

If these things are vulnerable, what about the rest of American life as we know it?

After all, an assault on the United States is an assault on the single value that sums up everything we stand for: Freedom.

In America, we have the freedom to associate with whomever we please, to buy and sell freely and to live in relative security.

However, there are many places around the world where people are not allowed to partake of these freedoms.

In many places in the world, people must fear for their lives.

Many of these people are

innocent, suffering simply because of differences of ethnicity, religion or gender.

Unfortunately, some people choose to inflict suffering on others.

When this happens, it is up to us to choose how we will respond.

When a crisis situation develops, there is a tendency in people to revert to their primitive emotional selves in an effort to cope with the stress of living in a world so seemingly meaningless and chaotic that a person can wake up one morning, turn on the TV and find out that thousands of people have just been killed.

The first thing many want to do is find out who did this and how we can make them suffer.

Many people may be tempted to jump to conclu-

sions while searching for a scapegoat to sacrifice in the tragedy of life we enact in an attempt to exert our order on the chaos.

Terrorism strikes at the very heart of the American psyche because it threatens our sense of security.

It shows us that we might not have control after all, and this is something we often have trouble dealing with.

So when faced with this horrible truth, we become frightened and want to lash out.

But, there is a horrible human tendency to generalize our rage toward groups simply because of the sins of individuals within those groups.

We seek a face to attach to our rage.

But, if we allow ourselves to be provoked by hate, who wins?

If we allow the hate of the terrorist to manipulate us

into a hate of our own towards the terrorists, or worse, towards people who happen to share certain characteristics such as religion or ethnicity with these terrorists, what happens to our freedom?

The people responsible for these attacks should be brought to justice, but it is imperative that we as Americans do not allow ourselves to deprive anyone unjustly of rights - of freedom - in the name of retaliation.

We cannot allow this threat to our freedom to provoke us to sacrifice our ideals simply because we need a target for our fear.

It is most important that we remember that individuals are responsible for these acts, not a group of people.

- mm

Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

As a student at LSUS and a taxpayer, I have once again been disappointed by the ever-pervasive corporate mindset that exists on this campus. My dismay has been heightened, though, by printed comments that have been attributed to officials at this university. The current issue of *Forum News* (Sept. 5) contains a cover story that features a former LSUS student (in business administration). This former student, apparently operating a very successful food service business, was given some appallingly misguided, but not surprising, advice from two officials at LSUS.

According to the former student, "I had a professor and a counselor at LSUS who knew about my business ask me, 'Why are you here?' And my counselor said, 'You go to college to be able to work for someone, and it's obvious you are never going to do that.'" This kind of advice precisely supports the notion that the American university in general and LSUS in particular have become nothing more than corporate training facilities.

My conflict with this approach covers two fronts. First of all, the university (especially a publicly-funded school) must recognize a purpose for existence that transcends corporate training, accumulating wealth and the overall perpetuation of the status quo. A recognition of the responsibility to train better-informed, more thoughtful *citizens* surely should be a priority. Secondly, though, this current approach toward higher education is simply inefficient. Statistics indicate that the number of educated workers in the state of Louisiana is declining, and that the most voluminous exodus appears to be coming in the 18-35 year-old category. In a nutshell, LSUS is, at this point, training the next generation of corporate leaders, managers, and workers for Dallas, Houston, Little Rock, etc.

It is time that students expect more from this university, its professors and counselors, and for taxpayers to demand more from the leadership of this institution. If nothing else, students deserve a more thoughtful reason for going to college, and taxpayers deserve a more legitimate reason for supporting this university.

Sincerely,
Steve Parker
Senior
General Studies

Are you interested in making a difference in your community? Society? The world?

Think of what you can do in a matter of one day.

The Student Government Association, in conjunction with the LSUS American Humanics program, invites you to join us on September 15, 2001 for Volunteer Day. We will be volunteering at the Mercy Center and the Hospitality House beginning at 9:00 a.m., and Bossier City Clean-up beginning at 8:00 a.m. You can choose which one you would like to volunteer for.

At the Mercy Center, which is connected with the Philadelphia Center, we will be wrapping condoms in AIDS/HIV educational brochures. At the Hospitality House, we will be serving meals. At Bossier City Clean-up, we will board a boat and pick up trash on sand bars.

All of these nonprofit organizations would love to have volunteers. Since these are all local nonprofits, volunteers are often hard to come by, and all help would be greatly appreciated.

The "Volunteer Day" will be held once a month on the third Saturday, and the nonprofit organization list will differ each month. Come out and make a difference.

If you would like any further information, please contact either Jeff Strozier, SGA President, at 797-5342 or I at 795-4262.

Thanks!
Amanda Joy Bell :)
SGA Senator-at-Large
American Humanics President

Letter to the editor

Dear Mr. Morris,

Thank you for your article in the August 23 edition of the *Almagest* concerning Dr. Knighten's efforts to implement an online-only version of his English 205 class. I am currently enrolled in the "live" class that Dr. Knighten is teaching this semester. I've already previewed his Blackboard section on the class and it is in-depth, pertinent, and will be a great aid to those of us in his class. This could easily become an online class with interactive discussion and virtual classrooms. Dr. Knighten is right-- students taking online courses tend to study harder to make sure they don't miss anything!

You wrote that, "Knighten said that an online course would be especially useful to students with difficult schedules." I am what would be classified as a non-traditional student with a "difficult schedule". I began my college education at LSUS as an 18-year-old freshman in 1980. I left LSUS in 1982 because I had to go to work to support myself. I returned to LSUS in 1997 to pursue a bachelor's in psychology, to change my career field and to improve my odds of getting a better salary.

I have been frustrated in my efforts to take classes pertaining to my major because like most people who have full time jobs, I work from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most evening classes in the department of psychology begin at 5 p.m. The University has a policy about students being late to class. My employer, like most employers, has a policy about working your full shift. In turn, I have my own policy about keeping my present job, my home, and my badly-needed health insurance. I am also saving for the day when I will need to go to school full-time to complete my master's degree.

In writing to the psychology department, I was told that this problem had never come up before, and also that it was their experience that most psychology students who also worked regular full-time jobs had to quit those jobs to finish their bachelor's degrees.

I find this hard to believe. I know so many potential older students that would love to enroll in college, but the class schedules for every major except for those in the College of Business don't permit them to attend because of work conflict.

I have been able to successfully complete most of my degree requirements (thanks to most departments who offer night classes starting at 5:30p.m. and 6 p.m.) and even take a few psychology courses, but until either the start times for the evening psychology classes are adjusted to later than 5 p.m., or some psychology courses are developed for online teaching, I will not be able to complete my degree at LSUS.

I urge the faculty to study Dr. Knighten's efforts to enhance and expand teaching and learning methods. Department heads please review your class schedules, and realize that most of the students who take evening classes are doing so because they have children, homes, etc., and cannot afford to quit their jobs to finish their education. Many of us do not have employers who will work with us to let us out early to get to class by 5 p.m. Please help us in our efforts to complete our degrees at one of the finest universities around: LSUS.

I urge students in the same predicament as myself to contact their advisors and deans and make them aware of this problem.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Leathers
Junior
Psychology

LSUS campus police blotter

No Reports

Psychology committed to new master's of science in counseling psychology degree

by
Erica Eakin

Aspiring Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs) can now work towards their career goals right here at LSUS.

As of Aug. 22, LSUS now offers a brand new graduate program: the master's of science in counseling psychology (MSCP).

Dr. Jean H. Hollenshead, interim chair of the department of psychology, is one of the people who has been working for at least four years to bring this program to LSUS.

Hollenshead, interim program director for the MSCP program, said she is extremely excited about the 48 semester-hour program, which is designed to prepare students seeking LPC certification.

The program is also intended to prepare students for graduate work in psychology and, through a thesis option, to work towards their doctorate degrees.

"This is a big part of the dream for the growth of the psychology department," Hollenshead said. "We feel like it is a unique opportunity for a large segment of our population here who have kind of waited for a program like this to come along."

Mental health is becoming a more recognized area of health care, resulting in a surge in the need for LPCs, according to Hollenshead.

LSUS has hired two new faculty members for the sole purpose of working with the MSCP program: Dr. Meredith Nelson and David Williams.

However, many LSUS faculty and staff members are involved in the program, according to Hollenshead.

"We think that it is important to keep all faculty attuned to the program all the way through," she said.

The MSCP program committee, composed of six faculty members from the department of psychology, operates the program.

Dr. Charles Wilson, director of graduate studies in education, is working with the committee because students can also study to be a school counselor through the MSCP program, which falls under both the departments of psychology and education.

As a result, students in the program will have the career options of becoming a school counselor or going into private practice as an LPC.

"Have you ever wanted to be Frasier Crane? Well, here's your opportunity," Wilson said.

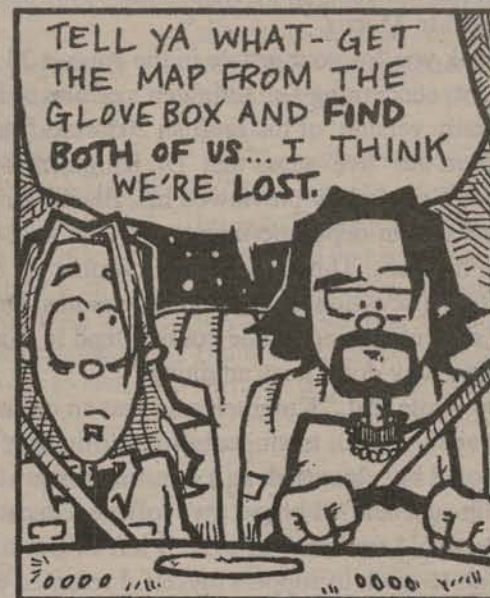
Other people who worked to start the program include Dr. Patricia D. Stanley, professor of psychology, who wrote the initial letter of intent; the late Dr. Jimmy Smith, chair of the department who helped in the early stages of the process before succumbing to cancer last year; and Margaret Murray, an instructor in the psychology department and executive director of the Samaritan Counseling Center.

More than 80 students are involved in various aspects of the MSCP program, with more than 40 enrolled in graduate courses, and others working on the 18 hours of prerequisite courses.

The program has also attracted people who are already school counselors, such as Paula Shepherd, who holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's in education, but is currently working toward her LPC certification.

"(The program is) really growing," Shepherd said. "It's an exciting program. By the time students complete the program, they will be more than prepared to get their LPC (certification)."

eleventeen BY JEREMY JOHNSON



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WWW.THIRDFLOORCOMICS.CJB.NET

Dear Stmarvin,

I have been a student at LSUS for three and a half years.

The one question that I keep hearing and now the one that I am asking is: "Why is such a large percentage of the LSUS population so apathetic and un-involved?" And an even better one: "Why are those people the ones I hear complaining about how much this school sucks?" If you could answer this for me then I could rest a little easier.

~Confused in Liberal Arts

Confused in Liberal Arts,

The question you ask can be answered in two ways.

The one I prefer, is to just say those

people suck. But because that we do have educated people reading, I feel that I must give some data supporting my accusation.

I conducted a study on the correlation between apathy and student involvement. In an unscientific poll of approximately 1,000 random students this is what I found: 15 percent consider themselves apathetic,

35 percent said they were not apathetic, 45 percent said they had to leave for some reason and didn't have time to answer, 5 percent told me my breath stunk and that I should take a shower.

As for student involvement, I found that when student involvement increases, apathy dramatically decreases, and when involvement decreases, student apathy increases.

This of course is not that surprising considering

some different scenarios and only some of them were successful.

Test subjects were selected randomly from LSUS student's Social Security numbers (an easy thing to attain from this campus) and were observed.

I found three factors that led to increased student involvement.

The first thing I did was up-grade the one ply toilet paper in the bathrooms.

I found when I replaced the one-ply toilet paper on the third floor in BH with two-ply pillow-like paper, student involvement increased on the third floor and stayed the same on floors 1, 2 and 4 and decreased on the 5th.

The second success was changing the types of drinks available.

When the beverage machine (BH) was filled with beer rather than soda, I found that student involvement increased dramatically (up to an astonishing 50 percent--we should try that at Fall Fest). And finally the

most powerful discovery of all was that when held at gunpoint, 100 percent of the test subjects found it much easier to become involved.

This would be a good way to get people to vote for the SGA elections.

As for the bitching, maybe they should get involved and change things a bit to fit their picky needs.

If we all work together then maybe it would be a fun campus for everyone. Not just fun for the handful of folks who have taken a step up to do something about it.

~Stmarvin

Got a problem? Complaint?

Need some honest advice?

Or just want to insult me?

Send email titled "Stmarvin Sucks" (this goes in the subject line to help us differentiate between other mail) to almagest@pilot.lsus.edu or scream from wherever you are.

